



An Open Letter:

As a Board Member of the Stop Offshore Wind Coalition, I write today to urge support and passage of both Maryland Senate Bill 675, and Maryland House Bill 1149. The bills, sponsored by Sen. Mary Beth Carozza in the Senate, and Delegate Chris Adams in the House, direct the Maryland Public Service Commission to immediately conduct a thorough analysis of the costs and benefits of electrical generation capabilities in the state of Maryland. It would also require the commission to recommend policy changes to support the development of energy sources that provide the best cost-to-benefit ratio to all Maryland ratepayers.

As we, the Stop Offshore Wind Coalition, are currently waging an ongoing battle with US Wind as they seek to industrialize our ocean with a massive offshore wind farm, I fully support the swift passage of both of these bills so that Maryland voters and ratepayers will be given a complete, transparent picture of the true cost of electricity in our state, and the impacts that this wind farm will have on our electric rates. Here on the eastern shore, we have been repeatedly misled and misinformed regarding both the effectiveness and efficiency of offshore wind power. Facts have been withheld, and we have been misled about its effects on our ocean ecosystems, our businesses, the economic costs to all Maryland electricity customers, and our very way of life here on the shore.

As an organization, our biggest question since the beginning of this project has been 'At What Cost?' We know the cost: higher electric bills – for everyone in Maryland, job loss, tourism loss, business loss, loss of our culture, and irreversible environmental damage, including threats to marine life. Offshore wind proponents will urge you to look to the future and think about what green energy can do for our state, but what about the 'now'? What about the facts that point out that wind energy is neither clean, nor efficient.? The fact is that offshore wind power is far more expensive than other types of electricity, not only in the direct cost to ratepayers every month, but also in the massive amount of government subsidies, paid for by Maryland taxpayers, that are required to make wind power even remotely competitive on the open market.

Again, I write to urge swift passage of Senate Bill 675, and House Bill 1149, and to applaud both Senator Carozza and Delegate Adams for standing up for Maryland ratepayers, voters, and specifically for us here on the Eastern Shore. Our voices have been ignored throughout this entire process and it is both encouraging and uplifting to see that at least some in the halls of our state government are finally listening.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kevin Gibbs".

Kevin Gibbs  
Stop Offshore Wind Board Member  
Owner, The Dough Roller, Ocean City, MD



## Stop Offshore Wind Partners



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